

#### **§ 241.515**

be effective for a period of not more than 60 days from the day of issuance.

(2) A firm commitment to insure upon completion shall be effective for a designated term within which the borrower is required to begin construction, and if construction is begun as required, the commitment shall be effective for such additional period, estimated by the Commissioner, as will allow for completion of construction.

(3) The term of a firm commitment may be extended in such a manner as the Commissioner may prescribe.

[61 FR 14417, Apr. 1, 1996]

#### **§ 241.515 Inspection fee.**

The firm commitment may provide for the payment of an inspection fee in an amount not to exceed \$5 per thousand dollars of the commitment. If an inspection fee is required, it shall be paid as follows:

(a) If the case involves the insurance of advances, it shall be paid at the time of initial endorsement.

(b) If the case involves insurance upon completion, it shall be paid prior to the date construction is begun.

#### **§ 241.520 Fees on increases.**

(a) *Increase in firm commitment prior to endorsement.* An application filed prior to initial endorsement (or prior to endorsement in a case involving insurance upon completion), for an increase in the amount of an outstanding firm commitment shall be accompanied by a combined additional application and commitment fee. This combined additional fee shall be in an amount which will aggregate \$3 per thousand dollars of the amount of the requested increase. If an inspection fee was required in the original commitment, an additional inspection fee shall be paid in an amount computed at the same dollar rate per thousand dollars of the amount of increase in commitment as was used for the inspection fee required in the original commitment. When insurance of advances is involved, the additional inspection fee shall be paid at time of initial endorsement. When insurance upon completion is involved, the additional inspection fee shall be paid prior to the date construction is begun or if construction has begun, it

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shall be paid with the application for increase.

(b) *Increase in loan between initial and final endorsement.* Upon an application, filed between initial and final endorsement, for an increase in the amount of the loan, either by amendment or by substitution of a new loan, a combined additional application and commitment fee shall accompany the application. This combined additional fee shall be in an amount which will aggregate \$3 per thousand dollars of the amount of the increase requested. If an inspection fee was required in the original commitment, an additional inspection fee shall accompany the application in an amount not to exceed \$5 per thousand dollars of the amount of the increase requested.

#### **§ 241.525 Refund of fees.**

If the amount of the commitment issued or an increase in loan prior to endorsement is less than the amount applied for, the Commissioner shall refund the excess amount of the application and commitment fees submitted by the applicant. If an application is rejected before it is assigned for processing, or in such other instances as the Commissioner may determine, the entire application and commitment fees or any portion thereof may be returned to the applicant. Commitment, inspection, and reopening fees may be refunded, in whole or in part if it is determined by the Commissioner that the installation of energy conserving improvements for the project has been prevented because of condemnation proceedings or other legal action taken by a governmental body or public agency, or in such other instances as the Commissioner may determine.

#### **§ 241.530 Maximum fees and charges by lender.**

The lender may collect from the borrower the amount of the fees provided for in this subpart. The lender may also collect from the borrower an initial service charge in an amount not to exceed 2 percent of the original principal amount of the loan to reimburse the lender for the cost of originating and closing the transaction. Any additional charges shall be subject to the prior approval of the Commissioner.

## ELIGIBLE SECURITY INSTRUMENTS

**§ 241.530a Note and security form.**

The lender shall present for insurance a note and security instrument, on forms approved by the Commissioner for use in the jurisdiction in which the property to be improved is located.

[45 FR 57983, Aug. 29, 1980. Correctly designated at 45 FR 80276, Dec. 4, 1980]

**§ 241.535 Loan multiples—minimum principal.**

The loan shall involve a principal obligation in multiples of \$100, and the minimum principal obligation shall be \$10,000.

**§ 241.540 Method of loan payment and amortization period.**

(a) *Monthly payments.* The loan shall provide for monthly payments on the first day of each month on account of interest and principal and shall provide for payment in accordance with the amortization plan as agreed upon by the borrower, the lender and the Commissioner.

(b) *Amortization period.* (1) The loan shall have an amortization of either 5, 10, or 15 years by providing for either 60, 120, or 180 monthly amortization payments. No energy saving loan shall have an amortization period in excess of 15 years unless the amount of the loan exceeds \$50,000.00, in which event the amortization period may be increased to 20 years, with a provision for 240 monthly amortization payments.

(2) In any event, the loan shall have a maturity satisfactory to the Commissioner of not less than 2 or more than 20 years from the date of the beginning of amortization, or the Commissioner's estimate of the remaining economic life of the structure, whichever is the lesser.

(3) The Commissioner shall establish the date of the first payment to principal, which shall be no later than the first day of the second month following the date of final endorsement (for projects involving insurance of advances) or endorsement (for projects involving insurance upon completion) of the loan for insurance.

**§ 241.545 Covenant against liens.**

The security instrument shall contain a covenant against the creation by the borrower of additional liens against the property superior or inferior to the lien of such instrument, except with the prior approval of the Commissioner.

**§ 241.550 Accumulation of next premium.**

The security instrument shall provide for payments by the borrower to the lender on each interest payment date of an amount sufficient to accumulate in the hands of the lender one payment period prior to its due date, the next annual insurance premium payable by the lender to the Commissioner.

**§ 241.555 Security instrument and lien.**

(a) The security instrument shall cover the entire property included in the project, shall be a lien on the real property of the project under the laws of the jurisdiction in which the project is located, and may be junior to such prior liens or mortgage indebtedness as the Commissioner may approve. The security instrument shall contain a provision that a default under the first mortgage is a default under the supplementary loan security instrument.

(b) For bond-financed projects where the bond resolution contains a provision prohibiting the creation of additional liens, the Commissioner may accept at his/her option:

(1) A first lien on another property whose fair market value as determined by the Commissioner equals or exceeds the amount of the loan insured under this part;

(2) A Collateral Account in an amount not less than the amount of the loan insured under this part funded with cash or negotiable bonds or securities backed by the full faith and credit of the United States Government; or

(3) Other security acceptable to the Commissioner.

**§ 241.560 Agreed interest rate.**

(a) The mortgage shall bear interest at the rate agreed upon by the lender and the borrower.

(b) Interest shall be payable in monthly installments on the principal